



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913  
PH (517) 373.6960 | FAX (517) 373.0897  
[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/jelinek/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/jelinek/)

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Contact: Sen. Ron Jelinek  
1-866-305-2121

## **Senate approves additional funding for Amtrak, agriculture processing**

**LANSING** – The Senate today approved additional funding to keep Amtrak running in Michigan, said Sen. Ron Jelinek, R-Three Oaks.

As part of the budget process, the Legislature reinstated \$1 million to the Amtrak budget and eliminated the requirement that they relocate their maintenance facility to Michigan.

Also included in the supplemental budget is \$5 million for agricultural processing.

“This takes care of some items that were not included in earlier budgets but that are very important to Southwest Michigan,” said Jelinek, vice chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture. “Our agricultural industry is vital to the livelihoods of local residents and Amtrak is sometimes the only transportation available to those without cars or family nearby. I’m pleased to see area residents benefit from this funding.”

Senate Bill 242 also includes \$300,000 for food safety inspections; \$500,000 for enforcement of the sex offender registry and \$35 million for public assistance.

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